
U.S. Global Change Research Program

Overview and Responsibility for Assessment

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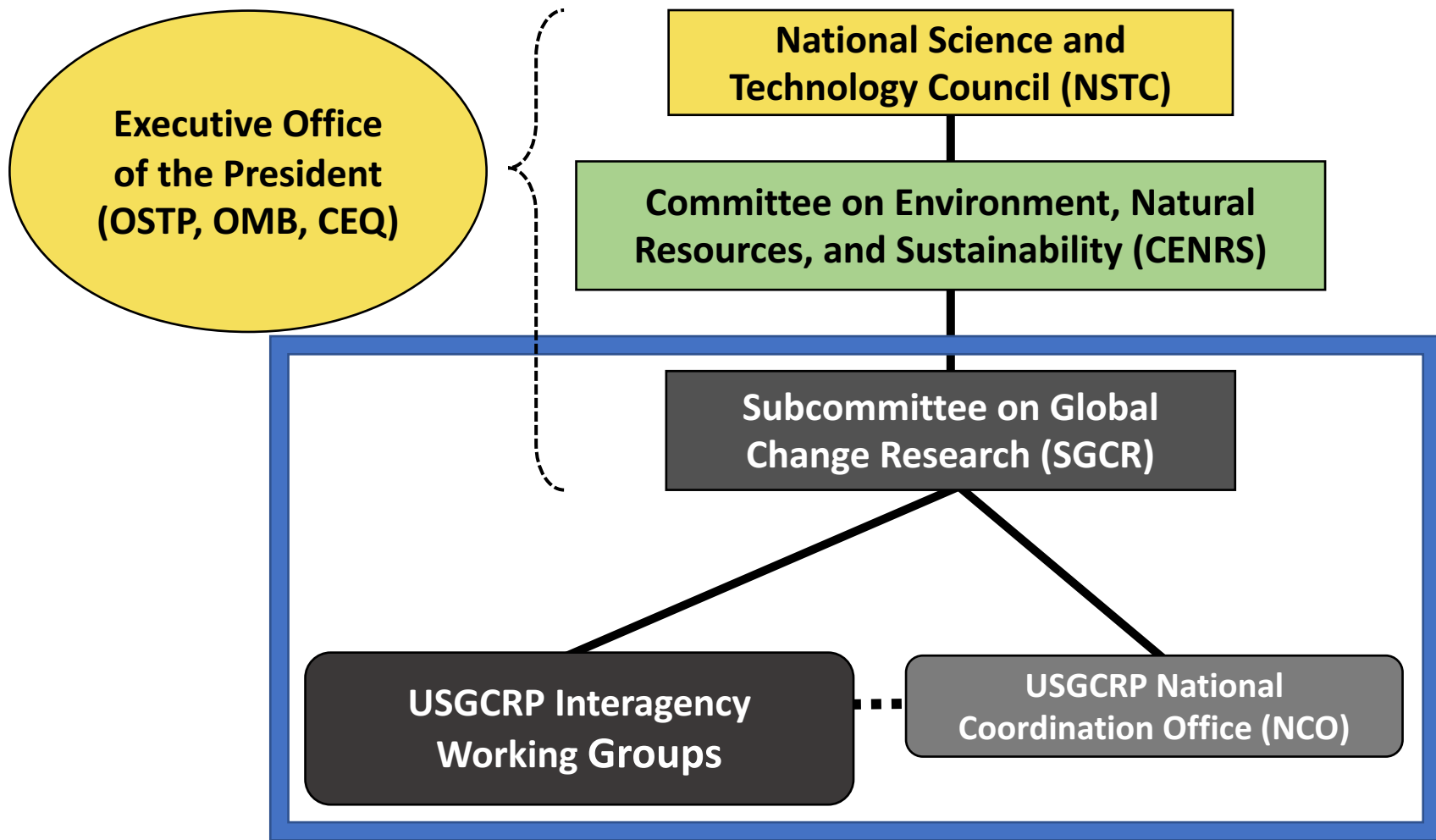


U.S. Global Change
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White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

- Established by Congress in 1976 to:
 - Advise the President and others within the Executive Office of the President on the effects of science and technology on domestic and international affairs
 - Lead interagency efforts to develop and implement sound science and technology policies and budgets
 - Work with the private sector; state, tribal, and local governments; the science and higher education communities; and other nations toward this end
- OSTP leads the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) and co-chairs the Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Sustainability (CENRS)
- The Subcommittee on Global Change Research (SGCR) is under CENRS





U.S. Global Change Research Program



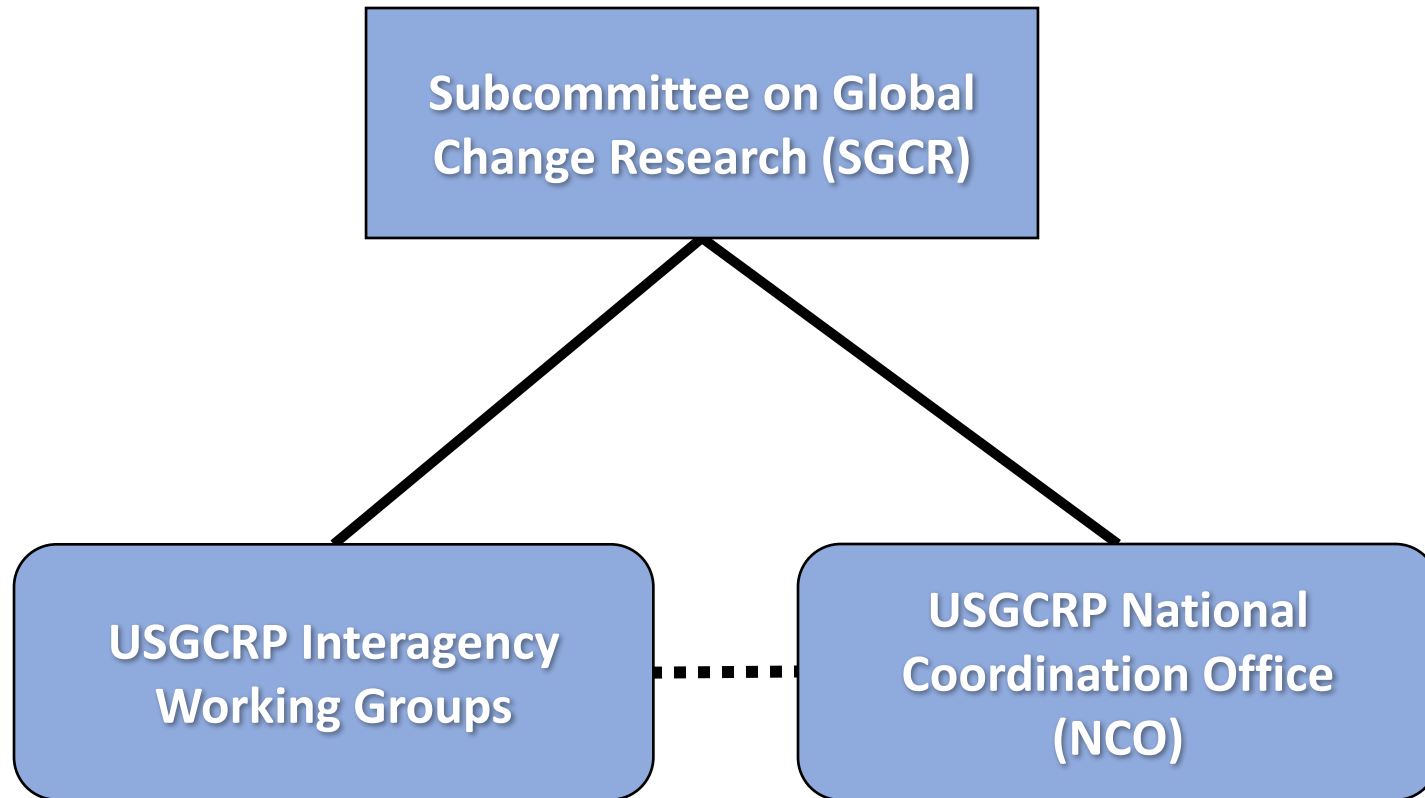
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U.S. Global Change Research Program

- USGCRP began as a Presidential Initiative in 1989
- Mandated by Congress in the Global Change Research Act (GCRA) of 1990 (P.L. 101 – 606) “to assist the Nation and the world to understand, assess, predict and respond to human-induced and natural process of global change”.
- Consists of the science arms of 13 agencies with responsibilities in global change
- FY 2015 budget crosscut \$2.459 billion
- Major coordination through Interagency Working Groups (IWGs), supported by the National Coordination Office (NCO)
- Interagency “Distributed Cost Budget” supports the NCO and activities of the organization



USGCRP at a glance



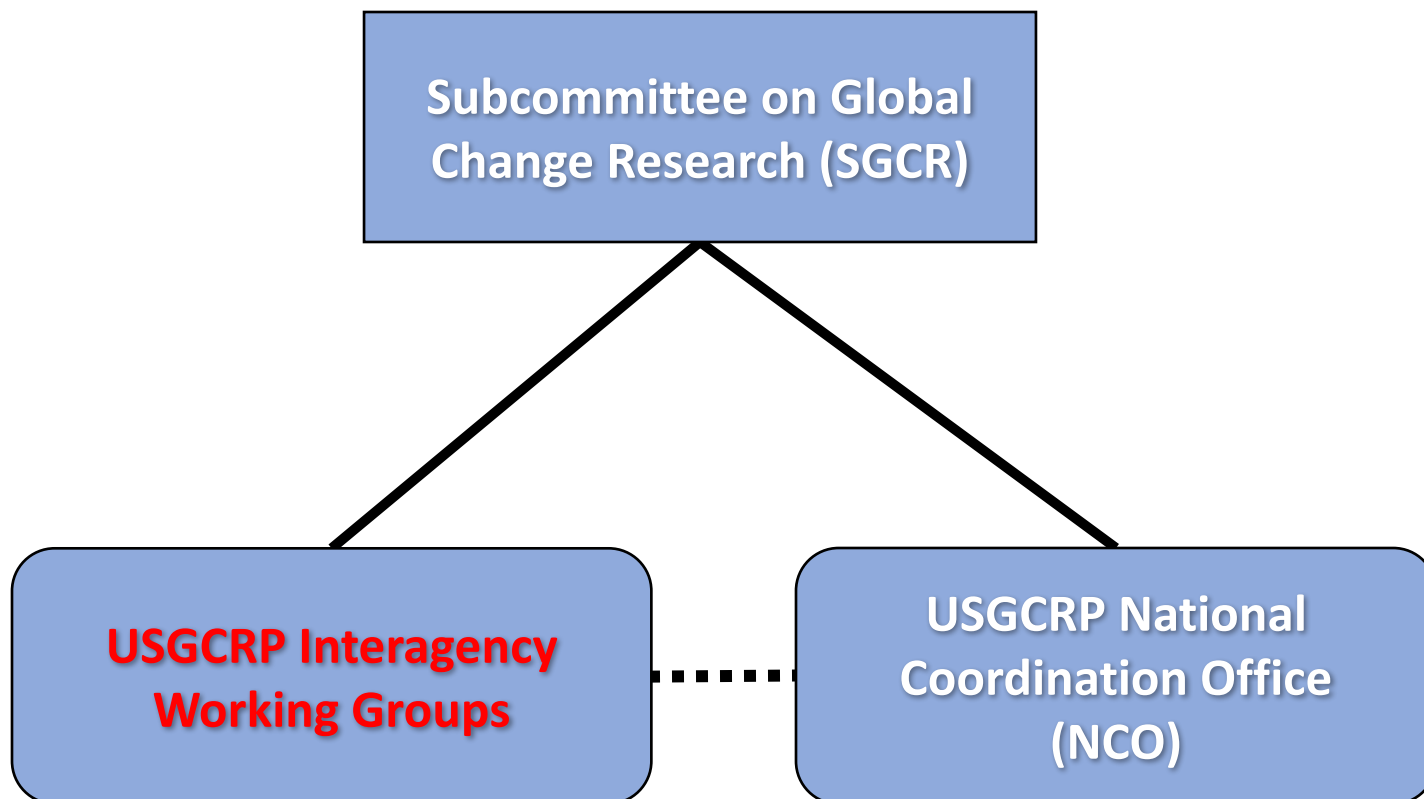
USGCRP at a glance

Disciplinary Groups:

Carbon cycle
Observations
Modeling
Health
Social sciences
Education

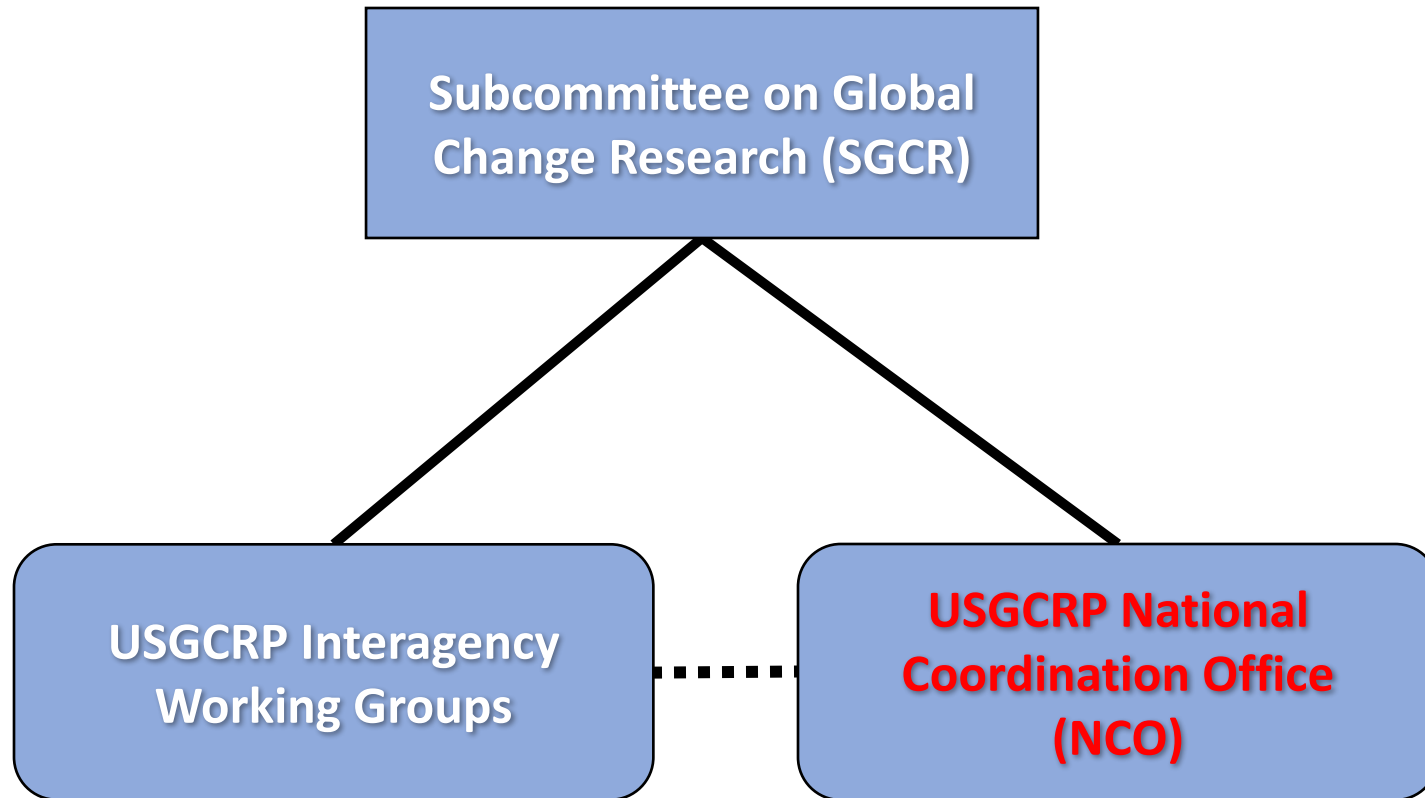
Operational Groups:

International
Assessment
Indicators
Scenarios
Information system



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USGCRP at a glance



USGCRP Decadal Strategic Plan

Overview: <http://globalchange.gov/what-we-do/strategic-planning>

Document: <http://library.globalchange.gov/u-s-global-change-research-program-strategic-plan-2012-2021>

2012-2021 Strategic Plan Goals

- **Goal 1 - Advance Science:** Advance scientific knowledge of the integrated natural and human components of the Earth system.
- **Goal 2 - Inform Decisions:** Provide the scientific basis to inform and enable timely decisions on adaptation and mitigation.
- **Goal 3 - Conduct Sustained Assessments:** Build sustained assessment capacity that improves the Nation's ability to understand, anticipate, and respond to global change impacts and vulnerabilities.
- **Goal 4 - Communicate & Educate:** Advance communications and education to broaden public understanding of global change and develop the scientific workforce of the future.



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Advance Science

- Earth System Understanding
- Science for Adaptation and Mitigation
- Integrated Observations
- Integrated Modeling
- Information Management and Sharing

USGCRP works to connect these approaches together to advance fundamental science, and to provide a science foundation for societal decision making



Inform Decisions, Sustained Assessment, Communicate and Educate

- The “other side” of USGCRP, these goals work together, with the aim of making USGCRP science actionable and accessible.
- USGCRP assessments identify societal science needs and feed them into the Program’s science planning and prioritization.
- Engagement—with those planning for and responding to climate change and with the science producing community is central to connecting across USGCRP’s four goals in ways that serve the Nation.



USGCRP Priorities

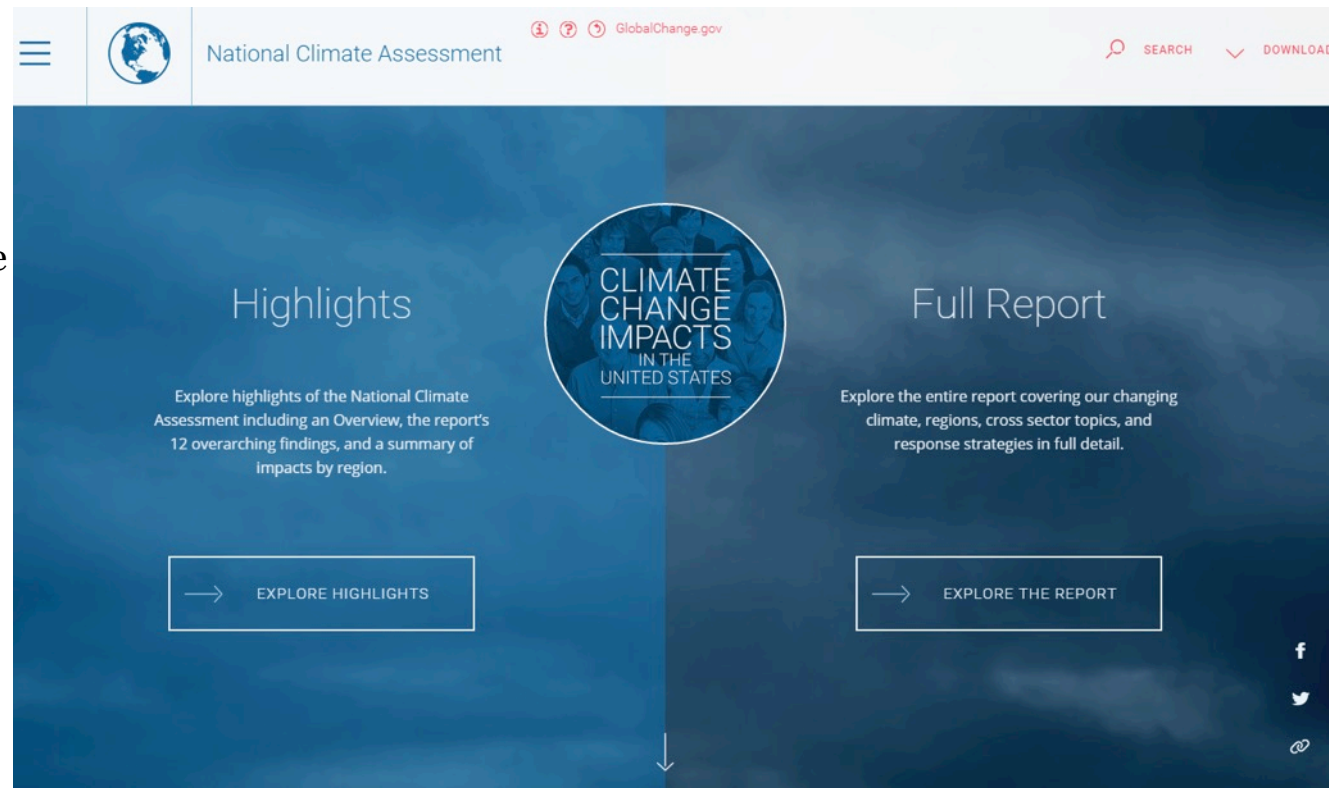
- Focus on activities that require or benefit from the engagement of multiple agencies
 - Arctic
 - Water cycle extremes
 - Carbon cycle: methane
- In addition, USGCRP recognizes key enabling capabilities upon which the program depends
 - Observations
 - Modeling
 - Actionable Science
- Encourage support from agencies and the administration for these priority areas



National Climate Assessment

- Summarizes current and future impacts of climate change
- Now a sustained process culminating in a quadrennial report
- Most recent NCA(3) released May 2014

All content in the 2014 National Climate Assessment is available in a dynamic format online.





THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON HUMAN HEALTH

IN THE UNITED STATES:
A SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT



U.S. Global Change
Research Program

Health2016.globalchange.gov

Circling back to USGCRP

- USGCRP represents the U.S. climate research enterprise
- Its goal “to assist the Nation and the world to understand, assess, predict and respond to human-induced and natural process of global change”
- Short-term help by providing information and connecting stakeholders with experts
- Long-term help through engagement to influence research investments

